

SPAWN



ISSUE 180 DIGITAL EDITION

SPAWN.COM

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IMAGE COMICS PRESENT

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DEDICATED TO:
RAYMOND BRIGGS

Previously in Spawn:

Al Simmons was a hit man for the US government until his C.O. Jason Wynn, betrayed him and a mysterious assassin ended Al's life. At the moment of death, Al was offered a deal by the demon Malebolgia and returned to Earth as Spawn, a creature with supernatural powers born in Hell.

As Armageddon consumed the world, Spawn turned against his masters, destroying all life on Earth. While God and Satan continue their endless conflict in a parallel universe, Spawn has re-created the world and resurrected the human race in what has become known as the White Light. The portals to Heaven and Hell are closed, leaving humanity free from the influence of angels and demons. Or so he believed...

After a reunion with his brother, Richard, Al's long-buried memories have re-surfaced. It seems that the mysterious Mammon has been manipulating Al Simmons since he was a child. When he returns to his parents' home, Al's father tells him that Mammon's influence stretches back even further. He gives Al the journal of his great grandfather, Henry Simmons, a journal that carries a dire warning for future generations. The Simmons bloodline is tainted and Al's mother has been in league with Mammon, since before his birth, marrying Al's father for the sole purpose of breeding this generation's Hellspawn.

As Mammon draws the threads of his plot together, Spawn is led to his second brother, Marc, now a leading criminal profiler for the FBI. After investigating a series of horrific murders, Spawn returned with Marc and the Wiccan, Nyx, to his retreat in the alleys. Here he is attacked by a Vrykolakas, ancient precursor of the vampire. The creature has been sent by the mysterious cloaked companion of Mammon. It has bitten Spawn and infected it with its own blood-lust.

Meanwhile in the home of his former wife, Wanda, all is not well.



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DID YOU
FINISH
WHATEVER YOU
WERE WRITING
ABOUT?

CYAN?



IS
SOMETHING
WRONG?

I'M
FINE.

A LITTLE
DIZZY. I JUST
NEED TO EAT
SOMETHING.

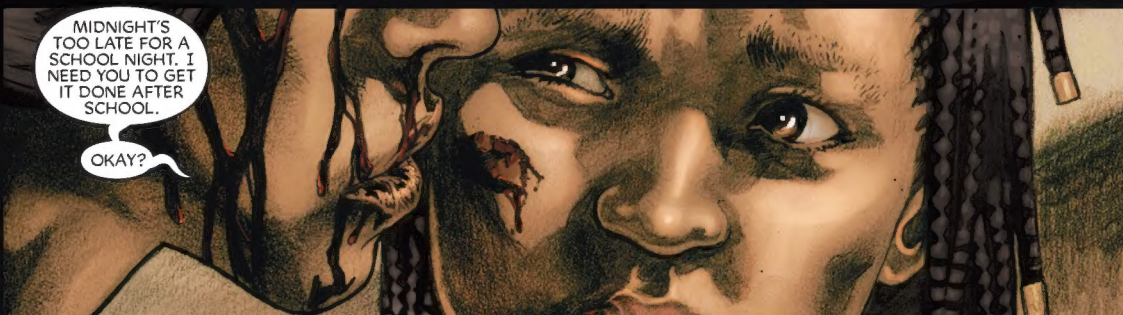
YOU
NEED TO
START GETTING
TO BED
EARLIER.



HE'S RIGHT.
WE KEEP SEEING
LIGHTS ON UNDER
YOUR DOOR.

YOU
SHOULDN'T BE
STAYING UP UNTIL
MIDNIGHT EVERY
DAY.

MY
TEACHERS
GAVE US A TON
OF HOMEWORK
THE LAST
COUPLE OF
WEEKS.




MIDNIGHT'S
TOO LATE FOR A
SCHOOL NIGHT. I
NEED YOU TO GET
IT DONE AFTER
SCHOOL.

OKAY?



*No matter how many
times I shut my eyes—
everything's still here
when I open them again.*



*Twish Granny
were here. She believes
my visions. Especially
about the Sad Man.*

*She says his
name was
Simmons--and
he used to be
married to Mom.*

*Though Mom never
wants to talk about
that. I HATE she
doesn't trust me.*

*And Granny seems
to think Simmons is
some kind of angel.*

*And nobody cares
about that because
they don't even
know he did it.*

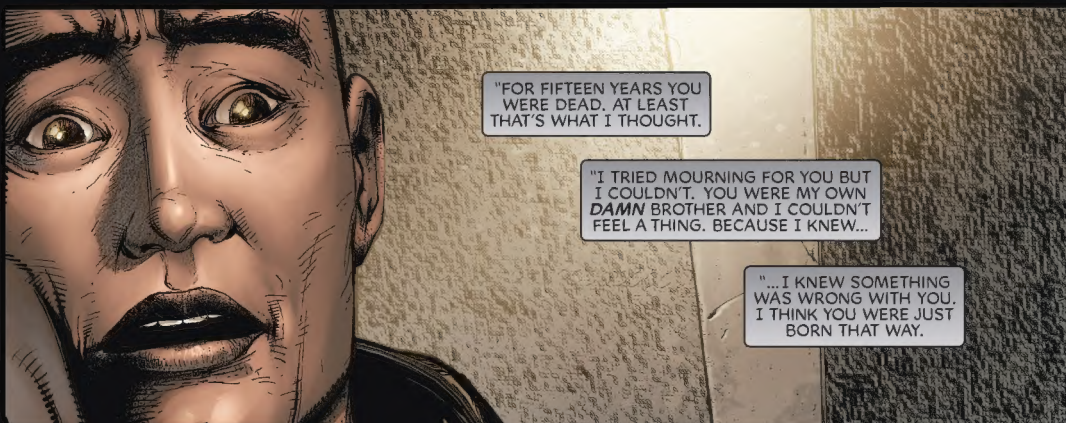
*Somehow he
saved us. Saved
ALL of us.*

**BUT I
CARE!!**

*Because I
can feel that
something bad
is happening to
him. Something
really bad...*



...and I every
HATE minute
of it!!!



"FOR FIFTEEN YEARS YOU WERE DEAD. AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.

"I TRIED MOURNING FOR YOU BUT I COULDN'T. YOU WERE MY OWN **DAMN** BROTHER AND I COULDN'T FEEL A THING. BECAUSE I KNEW...

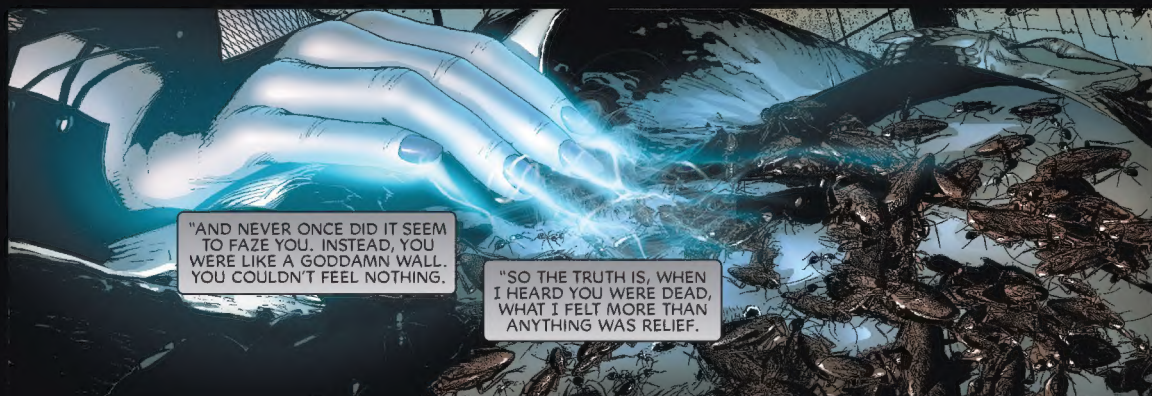
"... I KNEW SOMETHING WAS WRONG WITH YOU. I THINK YOU WERE JUST BORN THAT WAY.



"BECAUSE IT SEEMED LIKE BAD THINGS HAPPENED AROUND YOU."

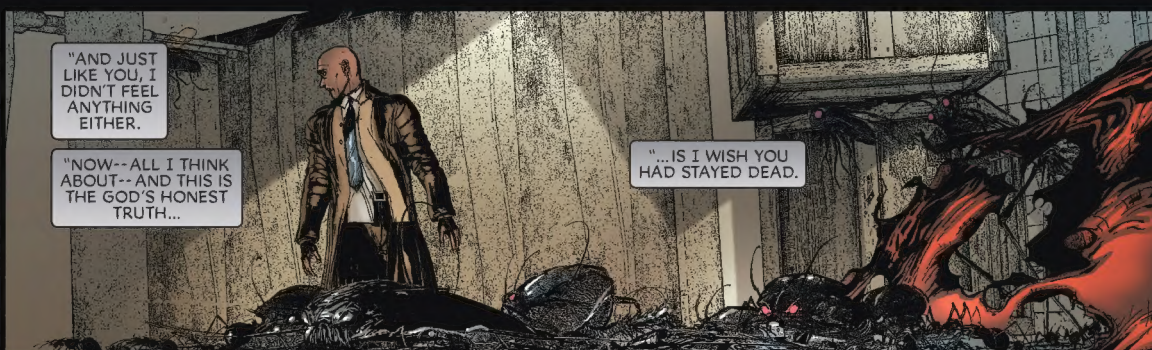
C'MON, AL--FIGHT IT!

"THINGS LIKE PEOPLE GETTING HURT---OR **KILLED**."



"AND NEVER ONCE DID IT SEEM TO FAZE YOU. INSTEAD, YOU WERE LIKE A GODDAMN WALL. YOU COULDN'T FEEL NOTHING."

"SO THE TRUTH IS, WHEN I HEARD YOU WERE DEAD, WHAT I FELT MORE THAN ANYTHING WAS RELIEF."



"AND JUST LIKE YOU, I DIDN'T FEEL ANYTHING EITHER."

"NOW--ALL I THINK ABOUT--AND THIS IS THE GOD'S HONEST TRUTH..."

"... IS I WISH YOU HAD STAYED DEAD."



"AND THIS GIRL.
CHRIST--SHE'S A WHOLE
OTHER STORY."

WHAT
THE HELL
YOU TRYING
TO DO?

I DON'T
KNOW.

SOMETHING.

MAYBE
NOTHING.

BUT WHEN
THAT VAMPIRE
BIT HIM, IT INFECTED
HIM WITH SOME
KIND OF VIRUS.



MENTALLY,
IT'S LIKE HIS
BRAIN IS--

I THINK IT'S
BLEEDING
INTERNALLY.



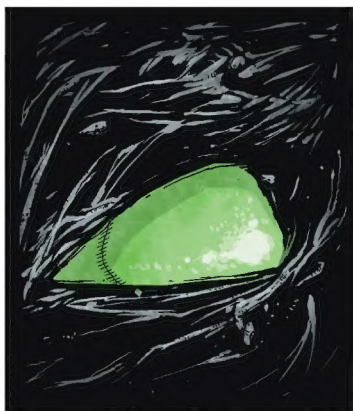
I NEED TO
GET INSIDE
HIM.



GODDAMN
YOU.

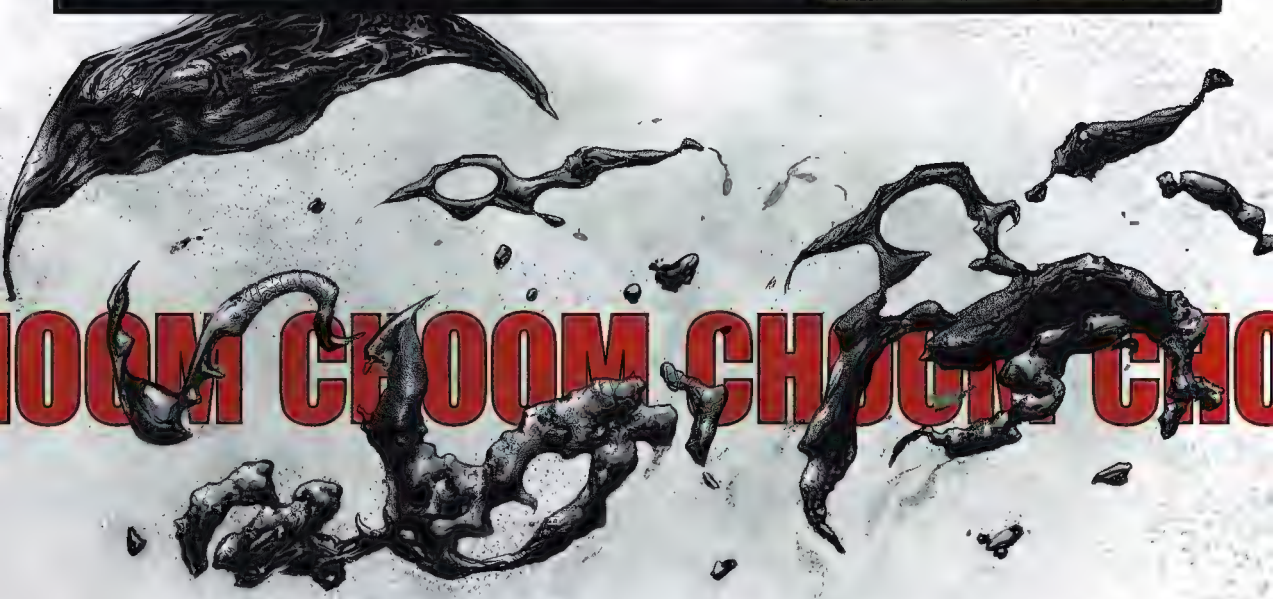
LET ME
IN!





COME
GET ME








JESUS CHRIST.

YOU'RE GOING TO TRY AND SCARE ME WITH MY COSTUME?



...AM NOT **YOUR** COSTUME!



YOU'RE
MY BODY.


YOU NEVER
UNDERSTOOD
THAT. OR WHAT
THAT MEANS.

YOU

JUST

DON'T

MATTER!






I WAS THE ONE
CONTROLLING OUR
POWERS. SILENTLY. YOU
THOUGHT IT WAS THE OTHER
WAY AROUND.



BUT I'VE
BEEN FEEDING
OFF YOU.
EVERY DAY.

AND YOU
LET IT
HAPPEN.



THE
QUESTION
YOU MUST ASK
YOURSELF--



-IS HOW
DID THAT
HAPPEN?

YOU HAD
THE POWER AND
THE CHANCE TO LIVE
LIKE A GOD.

YOU FORGOT
THAT! FORGOT
WHY YOU WERE
CREATED.

SO I TOOK
OVER. WAITING
FOR YOU TO
REMEMBER.



NOW, I
SEE IT IN
YOUR EYES
AGAIN.

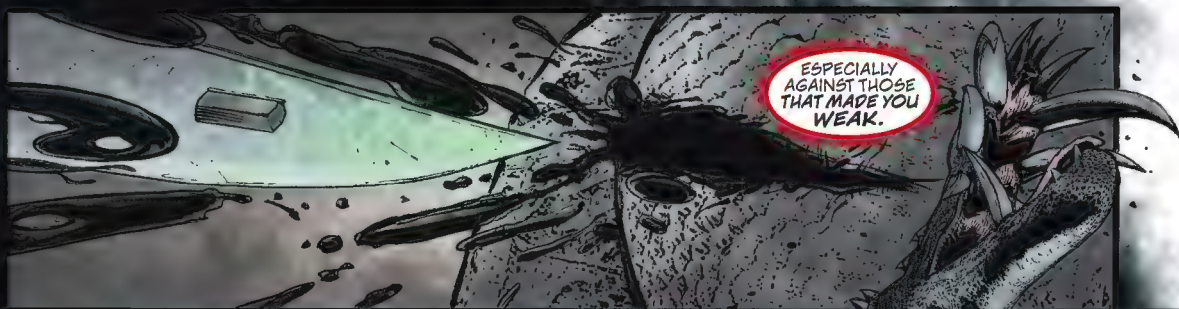
THAT ANGER.
THAT RAGE.
THAT LUST
FOR **REVENGE!**



GOOD.

I CAN
USE THAT.
HARNESS
IT.





ESPECIALLY
AGAINST THOSE
THAT MADE YOU
WEAK.

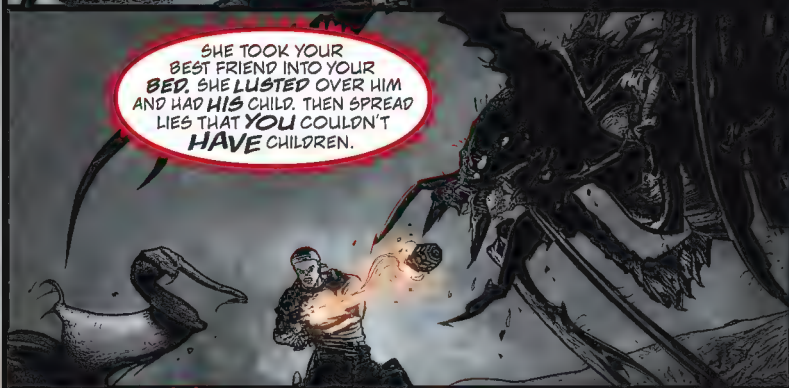


LIKE
YOUR
WIFE.

KEEP
HER OUT OF
THIS.



NO.



SHE TOOK YOUR
BEST FRIEND INTO YOUR
BED. SHE **LUSTED** OVER HIM
AND HAD **HIS** CHILD. THEN SPREAD
LIES THAT **YOU** COULDN'T
HAVE CHILDREN.

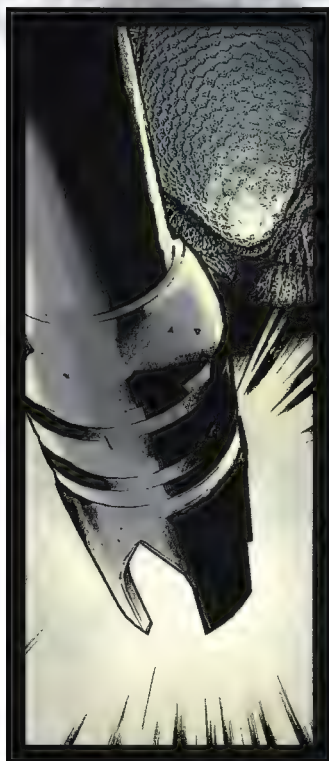
DON'T
YOU **GET**
IT??!



YOU
WEREN'T
STERILE. SHE
CHOSE
NOT TO HAVE
YOUR
CHILD.



IT WASN'T
LIKE THAT.
SHE LOVED
ME.



she
loved
me.

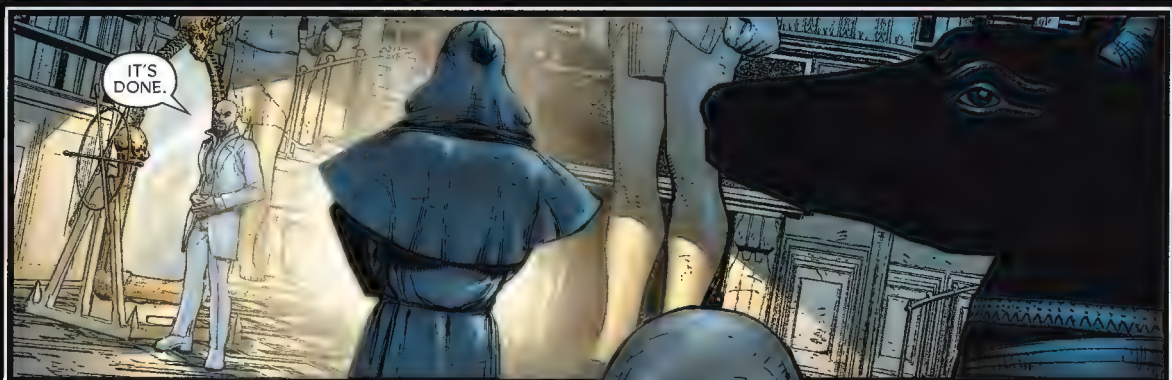
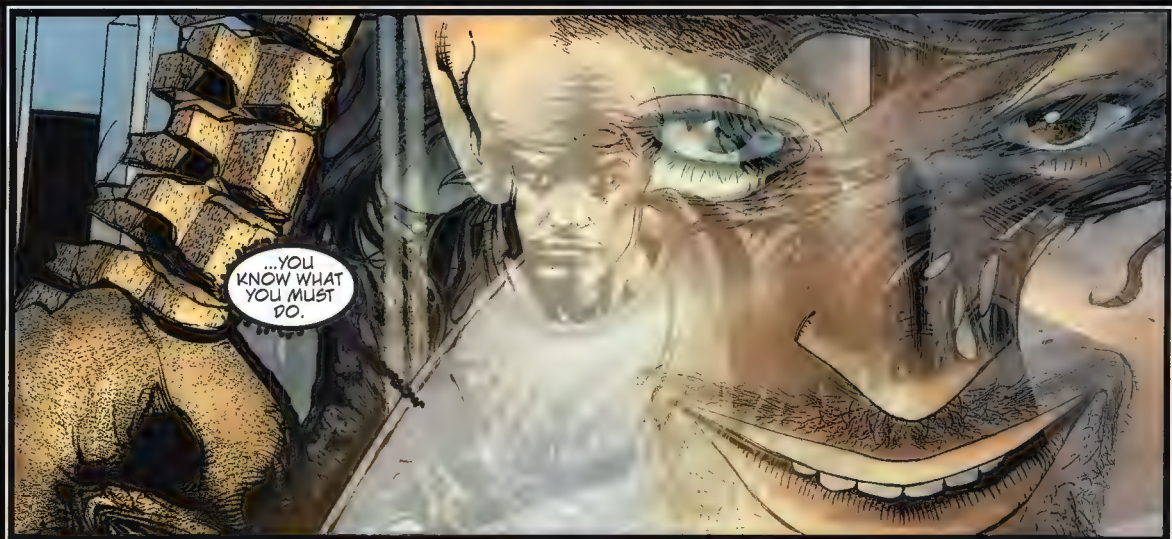


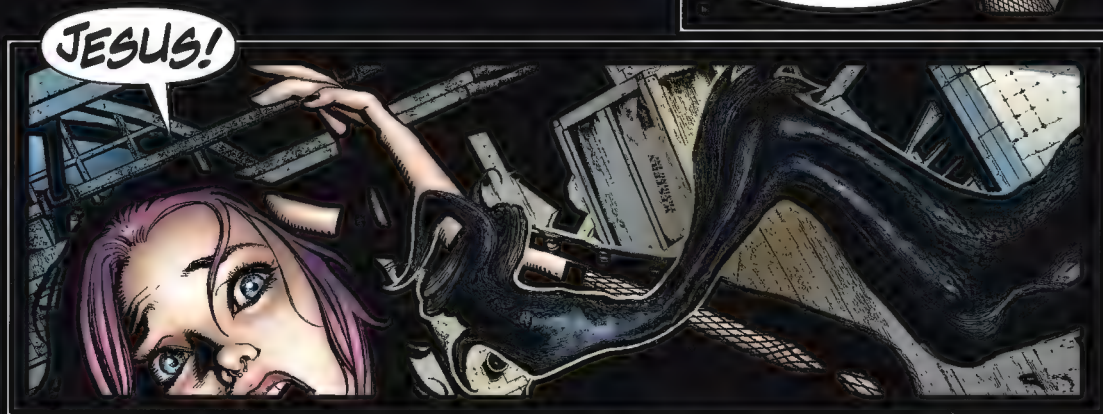
KEEP
TELLING
YOURSELF
THAT.


MAYBE
SOME DAY
YOU'LL
BELIEVE THAT
LIE.

BUT
DEEP
DOWN...












Tonight. Something's going to happen. I feel it. I see it.




Everywhere I look there's blood. On the walls. On the door. In the rugs...




He's coming.



And for the first time in my life I'm afraid of him.



I shouldn't be, because he saved me. And Dad. And Mom lots of times. But not this time...

A close-up, high-contrast illustration of a man's face. He has dark skin and long, thin dreadlocks that frame his face. His expression is somber and weary. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights and deep shadows.

*He's not coming
to save any of us
this time.*

*That's why I've been
seeing so much blood.*





YOU'RE
GOING TO
KILL MY MOM,
AREN'T
YOU?

TO BE CONTINUED





Tyrant
Lizard
King

EMPIRE